L. Paul Mankin IV (SBN 264038) 1 LAW OFFICES OF L. PAUL MANKIN IV FILED OLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT 2 8730 Wilshire Blvd. #310 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 3 DEC 2 7 2013 Phone: 800-219-3577 4 Fax: 323-207-3885 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA pmankin@paulmankin.com 5 6 Asaf Agazanof (SBN 285043) ASAF LAW 7 8 8730 Wilshire Blyd. #310 Beverly Hills, CA 90211 Phone: 424-254-8870 Fax: 888-254-0651 10 Asaf@Lawasaf.com 11 Attornevs for Plaintiff 12 13 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 14 15 WENDY NOEMI CASTILLO 9497DSF [NRWX] TORREZ, on behalf of herself and all 16 others similarly situated, CLASS ACTION 17 18 COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS Plaintiff, OF: 19 VS. 20 NEGLIGENT VIOLATIONS 1. OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT [47 U.S.C. §227 ET MED-CARE DIABETIC AND 21 MEDICAL SUPPLIES, INC., and 22 DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and each) 2. WILLFUL VIOLATIONS 23 of them. OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT [47 U.S.C. §227 ET 24 Defendants
RECEIVED
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT 25 26 DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL 27 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 28

Plaintiff WENDY NOEMI CASTILLO TORREZ ("Plaintiff"), on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, alleges the following upon information and belief based upon personal knowledge:

NATURE OF THE CASE

1. Plaintiff brings this action for herself and others similarly situated seeking damages and any other available legal or equitable remedies resulting from the illegal actions of MED-CARE DIABETIC AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, INC., ("Defendant" or "MED-CARE"), in negligently, knowingly, and/or willfully contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47. U.S.C. § 227 et seq. ("TCPA"), thereby invading Plaintiff's privacy.

JURISDICTION & VENUE

- 2. Jurisdiction is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2) because Plaintiff, a resident of California, seeks relief on behalf of a Class, which will result in at least one class member belonging to a different state than that of Defendant, a company with its principal place of business and State of Incorporation in Florida, Plaintiff also seeks up to \$1,500.00 in damages for each call in violation of the TCPA, which, when aggregated among a proposed class in the thousands, exceeds the \$5,000,000.00 threshold for federal court jurisdiction. Therefore, both diversity jurisdiction and the damages threshold under the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 ("CAFA") are present, and this Court has jurisdiction.
- 3. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Central District of California pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1391(b) and 18 U.S.C. § 1441(a) because Defendant does business within the state of California and the Central District of California.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff, Wendy Noemi Castillo Torrez ("Plaintiff"), is a natural

- 5. Defendant, MED-CARE DIABETIC AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, INC., ("Defendant" or "MED-CARE"), is a company engaged in selling diabetic and medical supplies and is a "person" as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153 (10).
- 6. The above named Defendant, and its subsidiaries and agents, are collectively referred to as "Defendants." The true names and capacities of the Defendants sued herein as DOE DEFENDANTS 1 through 10, inclusive, are currently unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues such Defendants by fictitious names. Each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE is legally responsible for the unlawful acts alleged herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend the Complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of the DOE Defendants when such identities become known.
- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes that at all relevant times, each and every Defendant was acting as an agent and/or employee of each of the other Defendants and was acting within the course and scope of said agency and/or employment with the full knowledge and consent of each of the other Defendants. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the acts and/or omissions complained of herein was made known to, and ratified by, each of the other Defendants.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Beginning in or around November of 2013, Defendant contacted Plaintiff on her cellular telephone, (562) 446-7258, in an attempt to solicit business.
- 9. Defendant sometimes placed calls multiple days in a row to Plaintiff's cellular telephone in an attempt to solicit business.
- 10. Defendant used an "automatic telephone dialing system", as defined by 47 U.S.C. \S 227(a)(1) to place its daily calls to Plaintiff seeking to solicit

business.

- 11. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).
- 12. Defendant's calls were placed to telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service for which Plaintiff incurs a charge for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).
- 13. Plaintiff has never provided any personal information, including her cellular telephone number, to Defendant for any purpose whatsoever.
- 14. Accordingly, Defendant never received Plaintiff's "prior express consent" to receive calls using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice on her cellular telephone pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A).

CLASS ALLEGATIONS

15. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, as a member of the proposed class (hereafter "The Class") defined as follows:

All persons within the United States who received any telephone call's from Defendant or its agent's and/or employee's to said person's cellular telephone made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system or with an artificial or prerecorded voice without express consent within the four years prior to the filling of the Complaint.

16. Plaintiff represents, and is a member of, The Class, consisting of All persons within the United States who received any collection telephone calls from Defendant to said person's cellular telephone made through the use of any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice and such person had not previously not provided their cellular telephone number to Defendant within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint.

- 17. Defendant, its employees and agents are excluded from The Class. Plaintiff does not know the number of members in The Class, but believes the Class members number in the thousands, if not more. Thus, this matter should be certified as a Class Action to assist in the expeditious litigation of the matter.
- 18. The Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of all of its members is impractical. While the exact number and identities of The Class members are unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through appropriate discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that The Class includes thousands of members.
- 19. Plaintiff alleges that The Class members may be ascertained by the records maintained by Defendant.
- 20. Plaintiff and members of The Class were harmed by the acts of Defendant in at least the following ways: Defendant illegally contacted Plaintiff and Class members via their cellular telephones thereby causing Plaintiff and Class members to incur certain charges or reduced telephone time for which Plaintiff and Class members had previously paid by having to retrieve or administer messages left by Defendant during those illegal calls, and invading the privacy of said Plaintiff and Class members.
- 21. Common questions of fact and law exist as to all members of The Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of The Class. These common legal and factual questions, which do not vary between Class members, and which may be determined without reference to the individual circumstances of any Class members, include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Whether, within the four years prior to the filing of this Complaint, Defendant made any solicitation call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) to a Class member using

2.1

any automatic telephone dialing system or any artificial or prerecorded voice to any telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service;

- b. Whether Plaintiff and the Class members were damaged thereby, and the extent of damages for such violation; and
- c. Whether Defendant should be enjoined from engaging in such conduct in the future.
- 22. As a person that received numerous collection calls from Defendant using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice, without Plaintiff's prior express consent, Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of The Class.
- 23. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members of The Class. Plaintiff has retained attorneys experienced in the prosecution of class actions.
- 24. A class action is superior to other available methods of fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy, since individual litigation of the claims of all Class members is impracticable. Even if every Class member could afford individual litigation, the court system could not. It would be unduly burdensome to the courts in which individual litigation of numerous issues would proceed. Individualized litigation would also present the potential for varying, inconsistent, or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties and to the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same complex factual issues. By contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action presents fewer management difficulties, conserves the resources of the parties and of the court system, and protects the rights of each Class member.
- 25. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of the other Class members not parties to

26. Defendant has acted or refused to act in respects generally applicable to The Class, thereby making appropriate final and injunctive relief with regard to the members of the California Class as a whole.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

Negligent Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act 47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.

- 27. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-26.
- 28. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple negligent violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq.
- 29. As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff and the Class Members are entitled an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- 30. Plaintiff and the Class members are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

Knowing and/or Willful Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act

47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.

- 31. Plaintiff repeats and incorporates by reference into this cause of action the allegations set forth above at Paragraphs 1-30.
- 32. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227 et

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1	seq.
2	33. As a result of Defendant's knowing and/or willful violations of 47
3	U.S.C. § 227 et seq., Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled an award or
4	\$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47
5	$U.S.C. \ \S \ 227(b)(3)(B) \ \text{and} \ 47 \ U.S.C. \ \S \ 227(b)(3)(C).$
6	34. Plaintiff and the Class members are also entitled to and seek
7	injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.
8	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
9	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests judgment against Defendant for the following:
10	FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
11	Negligent Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act
12	47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.
13	• As a result of Defendant's negligent violations of 47 U.S.C.
14	§227(b)(1), Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to and
15	request \$500 in statutory damages, for each and every violation,
16	pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(3)(B).
17	 Any and all other relief that the Court deems just and proper.
18	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
19	Knowing and/or Willful Violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection
20	Act
21	47 U.S.C. §227 et seq.
22	 As a result of Defendant's willful and/or knowing violations of 47
23	U.S.C. §227(b)(1), Plaintiff and the Class members are entitled to
24	and request treble damages, as provided by statute, up to \$1,500, for
25	each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3)(B) and
26	47 U.S.C. §227(b)(3)(C).
27	///
28	
	CT ASS ACTION COMPLAINT

• Any and all other relief that the Court deems just and proper. Respectfully Submitted this 17th day of December, 2013. LAW OFFICE OF L. PAUL MANKIN IV By: /s/L. PAUL MANKIN IV L. Paul Mankin IV Law Office of L. Paul Mankin IV Attorney for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UNITED STATES JUDGES

This case has been	n assigned to District Judge	Dale S. Fisc	ther and the assigned		
	Michael R. Wilner	_ ·			
The case	e number on all documents filed v	vith the Court shou	ld read as follows:		
	2:13CV9497 D	OSF MRWx			
	eral Order 05-07 of the United Sta e Judge has been designated to he				
All discovery related motions should be noticed on the calendar of the Magistrate Judge.					
December 27, 2 Date	2013	Clerk, U. S. D By J.Prado Deputy Cl			
	NOTICE TO	COUNSEL			
A copy of this notice must be served with the summons and complaint on all defendants (if a removal action is filed, a copy of this notice must be served on all plaintiffs).					
Subsequent documents	must be filed at the following lo	cation:			
Western Division 312 N. Spring Stree Los Angeles, CA 90		St., Ste 1053	Eastern Division 3470 Twelfth Street, Room 134 Riverside, CA 92501		
Failure to file at the pro	per location will result in your d	locuments being re	eturned to you.		
V-18 (08/13)	NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT TO UN	NITED STATES JUDGES			

_ Case 2:13-cv-09497-DSF-MRW Document 1 Filed 12/27/13 Page 11 of 12 Page ID #:33

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COVER SHEET

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I (a) PLAINTIFFS (Check box if you are representing yourself □) Wendy Noemi Castillo Torrez, On Behalf of herself and All Others Simi Situated			DEFENDANTS. Med-Care Diabetic and Medical Supplies, Inc.						
(b) Attorneys (Firm Name, Addr	and Telephone Number. If V	ou are representing	Attorneys (If Kno	nwn)					
yourself, provide same.)									
L. Paul Mankin IV, Esq. Lav									
8730 Wilshire Blvd, #310, E				mar namm	ro Va	- Diversity Coces C	mly		
III. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an X in one box only.) III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES - For Diversity Cases Only (Place an X in one box for plaintiff and one for defendant.)									
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of Th	PTF DEF			PTF □4	DEF □4		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant		n of Another State							
		Citizen or Su	bject of a Foreign C	ountry 🗆 3	□3	Foreign Nation	·	□6	6
IV. ORIGIN (Place an X in one					int long	oify): □6 Multi-	□7 App	eal to I	District
Proceeding State Con	Appellate Court	Reopened	□ 5 Transferred fro			Distric	t Judg	ge from gistrate	ı
V. REQUESTED IN COMPLA	INT: JURY DEMAND: MY	Yes □ No (Check "Y	Yes' only if demand	ed in complain	t.)	rsmr. e 5 000 001.	00		
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (Cite	the U.S. Civil Statute under which	ch you are filing and	write a brief stateme	ent of cause. D	0 1101 011	C Julistrictional and			,
47 U.S.C. §227, et seq. YII. NATURE OF SUIT (Place	on Y in one box only.)	·							
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11430 Danies and Succession	☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	□371 Tru	th in Lending		Habeas Corpus General	Relatio 730 Labor		
☐ 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc.	□ 150 Recovery of	320 Assault, Lib	el & D 380 Oth	er Personal	III 53€	Death Penalty	Repor		
☐ 460 Deportation	Overpayment &	330 Fed. Employ	vers' C1295 Pro	perty Damage	☐ 540	Mandamus/	Disclo	sure A	.ct
☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced	Enforcement of	Liability	Pro	duct Liability		Other	□ 740 Railw		or Act
and Corrupt	Judgment	☐ 340 Marine	SESSE ANK	RUPLCY	□ 550		☐ 790 Other		
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☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/	□ 153 Recovery of	Product Lia	bility	C 157 RIGHTS	III 620	Other Food &	□ 820 Соруг	rights	
Exchange	Overbaymentor	☐ 360 Other Perso	onal 441 Vo		-	Drug	☐ 830 Paten	t	
□ 875 Customer Challenge 12	Veteran's Benefits ☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	Injury ☐ 362 Personal In	- 110 B		□ 625	Drug Related	□ 840 Trade	mark	
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890 Other Statutory Actions	☐ 195 Contract Product	☐ 365 Personal In	jury- mr	nodations		Property 21 USC 881	□ 862 Black	Lung	(923)
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☐ 895 Freedom of Info. Act ☐ 900 Appeal of Fee Determi-	230 Rent Lease & Ejectmen	nt □ 462 Naturalizat	ion Di	isabilities -	III KON	Safety/Health Other	□ 870 Taxe	s (U.S.	Plaintiff
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Case Number:									

CV-71 (05/08)

- Case 2:13-cv-09497-DSF-MRW Document 1 Filed 12/27/13 Page 12 of 12 Page ID #:34

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA CIVIL COYER SHEET

VIII(a). IDENTICAL CASES: Has If yes, list case number(s):	s this action been p	reviously filed in this court as	nd dismissed, remanded or closed? ☑No □Yes			
VIII(b). RELATED CASES: Have If yes, list case number(s):	e any cases been pro	eviously filed in this court the	at are related to the present case? MNo □ Yes			
□ C,	Arise from the sam Call for determinati For other reasons w	e or closely related transactio ion of the same or substantial ould entail substantial duplic	ons, happenings, or events; or lly related or similar questions of law and fact; or cation of labor if heard by different judges; or , <u>and</u> one of the factors identified above in a, b or c also is present.			
IX. VENUE: (When completing the	following informat	ion, use an additional sheet i	f necessary,)			
(a) List the County in this District; Check here if the government, it	California County of ts agencies or emplo	outside of this District; State in oyees is a named plaintiff. If	if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named plaintiff resides, this box is checked, go to item (b).			
County in this District:*		·····-	California County outside of this District, State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
Los Angeles						
			if other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH named defendant resides. If this box is checked, go to item (c).			
County in this District:*		-	California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
Los Angeles						
(c) List the County in this District; (Note: In land condemnation ca			f other than California; or Foreign Country, in which EACH claim arose.			
County in this District:*			California County outside of this District; State, if other than California; or Foreign Country			
Los Angeles						
* Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernar Note: In land condemnation cases, us			San Luis Obispo Counties			
X. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PRO PER); Date 12/17/17						
or other papers as required by lay	y. This form, approx	ed by the Judicial Conference	mation contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings e of the United States in September 1974, is required pursuant to Local Rule 3-1 is not filed ing the civil docket sheet. (For more detailed instructions, see separate instructions sheet.)			
Key to Statistical codes relating to So	cial Security Cases:					
Nature of Suit Code	Abbreviation	Substantive Statement of	Cause of Action			
861	ΗΙΑ	All claims for health insurance benefits (Medicare) under Title 18, Part A, of the Social Security Act, as amended. Also, include claims by hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, etc., for certification as providers of services under the program. (42 U.S.C. 1935FF(b))				
862	BL	All claims for "Black Lung" benefits under Title 4, Part B, of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969. (30 U.S.C. 923)				
863	DIWC	All claims filed by insured workers for disability insurance benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended; plus all claims filed for child's insurance benefits based on disability, (42 U.S.C, 405(g))				
863	DIWW	All claims filed for widows or widowers insurance benefits based on disability under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 405(g))				
864	SSID	All claims for supplementa	al security income payments based upon disability filed under Title 16 of the Social Security			
865	RSI .	All claims for retirement (old age) and survivors benefits under Title 2 of the Social Security Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. (g))				

CV-71 (05/08) CIVIL COVER SHEET Page 2 of 2